

PROCEDURE

Specific procedures must be followed when there is reason to believe that a child has North American Indian Heritage. Refer to the Native American Affairs (NAA) manual series for details of those procedures; see NAA 200, Identification of an Indian Child, and NAA 400, Indian Child Adoptions.

Tribal Resolution

In addition to the policies in NAA 200 and 400, if a child to be adopted has been determined to be eligible for membership in a federally recognized American Indian tribe, the adoption agency must document that diligent efforts have been made to comply with the adoption placement priorities established by the Indian Child Welfare Act. Diligent efforts include inquiring of the tribe if there are identified families which should be considered for adoption of the child. The adoption worker must request that the tribal child welfare commission provide a written resolution regarding adoptive placement of the child. The adoption worker must document the request for the resolution.